

city college news

The Vision 2003 countdown begins

If you haven't already put together your personal agenda for the March 1 Vision 2003 "Ramping Up For Success" event at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, time is running out. In just over two weeks, George Brown is hosting one of its biggest and most significant college-wide events ever, and by now we hope that everyone has taken

the time to make sure to get the most out of the brief time they get to spend there.

Michael Cooke, VP Academic Excellence, says, "There are so many interesting and informative sessions to choose from, and each presenter brings his or her unique perspective to what Vision 2003 is all about. Given the breadth of the topics, and

diversity of the presenters that will be there, the choices for sessions won't be easy."

Cooke does offer some helpful suggestions on general themes covered by the various sessions, and some recommended speakers to consider for each.

For a better understanding of the concept of Academic Excellence and what each of us can do to make it happen, check out the sessions by Dr. Ursula Franklin, Stuart McLean, Drew Ness and/or keynote speaker, Dr. Crystal Kuykendall.

Drew Ness, Dr. Kuykendall, Akela Peoples and Stuart McLean are excellent spokespeople for those interested in learning more about putting students first so they are absolutely confident that they and their success are our number one priority.

For building teams that

pump energy and fun, try the sessions with Patricia Thornton, Karen Radford and Jason Grewlewski, Samy Chong or Doug Sole.

Making George Brown The City's College is a subject being addressed in various forms by Frank Sorochinsky, Rob Prichard, David Crombie, Shirlee Sharkey, Akela Peoples, Haroon Siddiqui and Dr. Ursula Franklin.

"This is a unique opportunity that shouldn't be missed, and we're delighted with the response from faculty and staff," says Cooke. "It's going to be a wonderful and productive day for everyone."

For more information on Ramping Up For Success, contact Hilde Zimmer at extension 4724.

Turn to page 3 for some staff thoughts on the upcoming event...



Theatre School production turns up the heat for Valentine's Day. George Brown Theatre School graduating students Ben Clost and Sara Wood explore their characters in *Road* by Jim Cartwright, running until February 24 at the Equity Showcase Theatre. Photo by David Hawe.

Important Vision 2003 Notice:

Workshop # 116 led by Akela Peoples and Mary Lawson

The title should read: "Motivate ... Communicate ... Initiate: Helping Our Students Get Good Jobs"

The world of work is a fast-moving and competitive place. Thanks to globalization, GBC grads will be competing with students not just locally but nationally and internationally when they apply for work. This motivating and inspiring workshop will enable you to learn how we can be more responsive to the demands of our emerging workplaces from a young and dynamic leader who has coached thousands of youth and business leaders. Akela Peoples is a former teacher and the co-founder of Women in Motion Career Education, a not-for-profit organization that has helped more than 25,000 youth prepare for success in the workforce. The workshop will be co-facilitated with Mary Lawson, member of the GBC Board of Governors and a committed mentor and volunteer with Women in Motion. Mary is also the Vice-President of Dalerose Homebuilders and is active with the college's Centre for Advanced Building Technologies.

George Brown grads started an Affare to remember

For Colleen Walker and Robert Hudyma, founders of Toronto-based Catered Affare, the George Brown Culinary program was the starting ground for a successful partnership in more ways than one. As classmates at George Brown, it wasn't long before they discovered a mutual attraction that has led to a happy marriage (14 years and counting) and a highly successful catering business that services clients throughout North America.

Hudyma is a former geologist who played the role of chef on a number of prospecting expeditions – a job that eventually led him to consider more formal culinary training at George Brown. Walker had graduated from Ryerson's Hospitality and Tourism Management program and decided she wanted to improve her culinary skills. Upon graduation in 1986 they founded Catered Affare. Two years later, they married.

As Walker describes the

partnership, "Basically, Robert is the Vice President and Executive Chef and I do everything else. We really work as a team. I play a role in marketing and new business development. He takes care of the creative side of things, including cooking, developing recipes and designing concepts for events."

Having experienced double-digit growth since they first opened their doors for business, Catered Affare now has 14 full-time staff, as well as up to 40 part-time staff (many of whom are George Brown students or graduates). During their 16 years in business, they have catered events of all sizes and shapes, in parking lots, playing fields, corporate offices, and wedding halls, as well as high-profile events such as the Atlanta Olympic Games in 1996 and the Provincial Spring Games for the Ontario Special Olympics. Last year they received the Best



Catered Event in Canada Award at the Canadian Event Industry Awards (CEIA) for their work at a Toronto Star launch.

Walker concedes that catering is a tough business, but they love every minute of it. "You're only ever as good as your last party, so you have to keep coming up with new ideas."

Despite their busy schedules,

Walker and Hudyma say their first priority is spending time with their two daughters age 9 and 11 (the youngest just received her first cookbook). "Family always comes first," says Walker.

If you ask her how the City College has changed her life, she says, "At George Brown, I met a wonderful chef and have never had to cook again."

Child Care Cook's Day Out bigger and better than ever

February 28 is this year's official "Child Care Cook's Day Out" – an annual interdepartmental event hosted by members of the School of Hospitality and Tourism and the Early Childhood Education Program. According to ECE coordinator Diane Bergeron, this fun-filled and educational event "is our way of saying thanks to all the child care cooks in Toronto and the surrounding areas."

Last year's half-day event, which drew 50 people, was so popular that it prompted the organizers to offer a full day session this time around. Michael Cooke, Vice-President of Academic Excellence, will deliver the opening address. Chef David

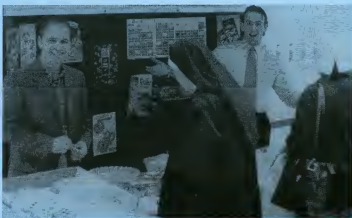
Wolfman has volunteered his time to do a one-hour cooking demonstration and will be available throughout the event to circulate with guests and answer questions. Visitors will then have a chance to take part in a series of workshops led by college staff, industry partners, and hospitality students that cover everything from cake decorating to creative vegetable carving.

"These people are the unsung heroes of our field and deserve to be thanked for all their hard work," says Bergeron. The thanks will also include a few luxury extras, such as lunch (wine included) at Siegfried's, massages and hand treatments.

"There is no other event

like it in the city. In fact, as a result of our efforts in mounting this event last year, the Child Care Cooks won the George Brown College Award for Excellence in teamwork. It was so successful, we're expecting the numbers to

double this year," says Bergeron. "We're especially grateful to David and the students for taking time out of their schedules to participate, and we're looking forward to having a better event than ever!"



Last year's event featured vendor displays and cooking demonstrations.

Canadian Artist gives Graphic Design students a new perspective



Award-winning Canadian artist and graphic designer Burton Kramer visited George Brown on February 4 to deliver a lecture to students in the Graphic Design program. He spoke to students about his design work, from signage and packaging to corporate branding. Kramer's extensive body of work encompasses typographic principles that demonstrate his strong affinity with the Bauhaus school of design. Among other achievements, Kramer was the recipient of Toronto Arts "Lifetime Achievement Award" in 1999, and is listed in *Who's Who in American Art*, *Who's Who in Graphic Art*, *Canadian Who's Who* and *Who's Who in The World*.

Vision 2003

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There is a lot of excitement about the upcoming "Ramping Up For Success" event. Here's what George Brown staff have to say about it in their own words:

"I think it's a good idea, a positive thing and gives new staff a chance to interact with old staff. It gives old staff a chance to get out and realize that they're still valued – we don't do that nearly as often as we should."

– Jim Kennedy, Handyman, Facilities Management

"I'm just very excited – it's a great follow-up after the innovation tours in the fall, and will provide a lot of positive experience for the staff and hopefully change the morale in the college and the attitude to where we're going."

– Alex Barbier, Manager, Student Affairs

"I'm really looking forward to the March 1st event. College-wide events are always useful and fun."

– Fatima Gata, Administrative Assistant, President's Office

"Not only will this be a great opportunity for the College community to get together, the impressive content and speakers should really help us achieve Frank's vision expressed in October."

– Paul Carder, Dean, Faculty of Business & Creative Arts

"I'm really excited and I know a lot of other people are too. I think it's giving food for thought for a lot of people. It's not very often we get a chance for all the groups to get together – we're all isolated in our own little areas."

– Regina Lapworth, Manager, Employment, Human Resources

"The program looks great. I hope it's an annual event!"

– John Walker, Dean, Faculty of Hospitality & Tourism

Hospitality staff test the skies

Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Dean John Walker, along with faculty members Susan McAuley and Roger Maurer, appeared on a recent episode of CBC Marketplace called "Testing the Skies." The three were recruited by the network to spend a day flying from Toronto to Calgary to offer their expertise on the services provided by different air carriers.

"George Brown has a terrific reputation in supplying the hospitality industry," says CBC Marketplace producer George Prodanou. "Everyone was great and each had their own specialty area so they managed to convey the essence of what we wanted. We were looking for people who could communicate well

– and they did it in spades. They certainly opened my eyes to the industry, and we're very grateful for their insight."

While the trio was ready to rest up after spending a full day flying, Walker says the experience was definitely worth the effort. "This opportunity provided George Brown with the most nationwide coverage it's ever had, which is great."

"Testing the Skies" aired January 30. The video of the segment can be seen by going to the CBC website at www.cbc.ca/consumers/market and selecting the show title. Or, call the Marketing & Communications Department at 416-415-2059 to borrow a VHS tape of the program.

The Huskies show their winning form



The George Brown men's basketball team is on a roll after winning two key games in January. On Wednesday, January 23, the George Brown Huskies defeated the Humber College Hawks 70 to 68, and followed a week later with a 70 to 63 win over the Sheridan College Bruins, the number one ranked college basketball team in the country. The Huskies are currently tied for second place in their division with Humber College.

upcoming events

Metro Colleges Part-time Teachers' Mini-Conference

Saturday, February 16 (9am to noon)

Humber College North Campus, 205 Humber College Blvd.

Saturday, March 16 (9am to 12:30pm)

Casa Loma Campus

Call Margaret Whittleton at 416-415-4663.

MODD (Music, Opera, Drama and Dance) Program Event:

Romeo and Juliet

An evening with the Ballet Jörgen Canada, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Canadian Opera Company, and the Stratford Festival

February 22 (7:30pm)

Main Stage, Toronto Arts Theatre, North York

Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for seniors and students

Call Anthony Holl at 416-961-4725.

Equity Showcase Theatre and George Brown Theatre School Co-Production:

Road by Jim Cartwright

February 13 to 24 (8pm Tuesday to Saturday; 2pm Sunday)

Equity Showcase Theatre, 651 Dufferin Street.

Tickets are \$20 from Tuesday to Thursday, \$25 on Friday and

Saturday, and pay-what-you-can for Sunday matinees.

For reservations or more information, call 416-533-9231 or visit www.equityshowcase.ca.

Industry Connect Reconnect Day/Job Fair

February 19

Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism

Call Scott Ribbins at 416-415-2239.

Tutti a Tavola ("Everyone to the table")

Tuesday, February 26 (6:30pm to midnight)

Siegfried's

Fundraiser for Italian Culinary Arts students' externship to Italy

Tickets are \$100 each piece (tax receipts will be issued)

Call Scott Ribbins at 416-415-2239 or Ivano Zambotti at

416-415-2246 ext. 3316.

10th Annual Labour Fair

Thursday, March 14 to Wednesday, March 20

This year's Fair will centre on the theme "Are You Ready?

Working in Uncertain Times." Call Maureen Hynes at

416-415-2549 or e-mail her at mhynes@gbrownc.on.ca.

Free Career Planning Workshop – sponsored by Marketing & Communications and Continuing Education

Monday, March 11 (6:30 to 9:30pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 128

Call 416-415-2000, ext. 3444 and press 1 to register.

Free True Colors® Workshop – sponsored by Marketing & Communications and Continuing Education

Monday, March 25 (6:30 to 9:30pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 128

Call 416-415-2000, ext. 3444 and press 3 to register.

Technology Event

Tuesday, April 2 (9am to 8pm)

Centre for Advanced Microelectronics, Faculty of Technology –

Casa Loma Campus, C Building

Faculty of Business and Creative Arts Open House

Friday, March 8 (10:00am to 4:00pm)

Casa Loma Campus

Call Debbie Fulford at 416-415-4840.

news briefs

Mastering blue moods

The Student Affairs staff of Counselling, Career and Employment Services has just released a new booklet entitled "Mastering Blue Moods." This new booklet addresses ways in which students can help themselves in overcoming low moods and anxiety, and offers information on where they can seek further help. Teachers are invited to make use of this new resource in helping students in need, and encourage them to advise students of the additional services offered in the way of personal counseling, as well as assistance with career and academic matters. Student Affairs also conducts a series of workshops that offer useful tips on managing time and stress, learning strategies, etc. For additional copies of "Mastering Blue Moods," contact the staff at Counselling, Career and Employment Services at 416-415-2107.

Marketing intern on her toes with Ballet Jörgen

Ballet Jörgen Canada, now celebrating a 10-year George Brown Dance partnership with the college, has recently entered into an internship agreement with the college's Database Marketing program. According to Anthony Holl, National Director of Development for Ballet Jörgen Canada, "These students bring their expertise to programs and initiatives that will assist us greatly in our efforts to achieve both long and short-term fundraising goals. Most importantly, we have provided a forum to test their educational training in a 'real world' environment and we are very proud to be a part of that critical process."

George Brown student Tong Huang will be working 35 hours a week at the company until May, and Holl says there will be more internships in future. "We have just begun the first step towards forging an even better relationship with George Brown College and its students, and we couldn't be happier with Tong's commitment and enthusiasm," says Holl.

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